



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF  
PREVENTION, PESTICIDES AND  
TOXIC SUBSTANCES

**SUBJECT** Sodium Acifluorfen Usage, Benefits, and Alternatives  
DP Barcode -D278404, Chemical # 114402

**FROM** Bill Chism, Ph.D., Agronomist  
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**THROUGH** Arnet Jones, Chief  
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**TO** Christina Scheltema, Team Reviewer  
Special Review and Reregistration Division

**DATE** December 6, 2001

The Special Review and Reregistration Division asked BEAD to address specific written comments from the registrant BASF regarding the usage, benefits, and alternatives to sodium acifluorfen in their document of September 18, 2001, Docket Number OPP-34241.

In Appendix 5, BASF states that use of sodium acifluorfen products has declined from 6.1 million acres reported in 1997 to 2.1 million acres in 2000, and that total pounds a.i. applied declined from 1.44 million pounds to 0.45 million pounds. Based on reduced usage as evidenced by work on the QUA this appears to be an accurate picture of current sales trends for sodium acifluorfen. BASF also states that the states with the most usage have also shifted to AR, MS, IL, MO, IA, NC, VA, NE, and GA. BEAD agrees that is an accurate picture of current sales trends for sodium acifluorfen.

In Appendix 6, BASF discusses the use of sodium acifluorfen for control of weeds in rice, peanuts, and soybeans. BASF describes the value of sodium acifluorfen to control specific hard-to-control weeds in each of the crops. BEAD agrees that there are certain crop and weed situations where sodium acifluorfen is an excellent tool for weed management. However, in many situations alternative herbicides combinations exist that would provide a similar spectrum of control for most weed species.

If you need more, please let me know and we can discuss SRRD's further needs.